

CLAIMS

1. A panel assembly for a motor vehicle, the assembly comprising:
 - a fixed panel defining an opening;
 - a rail attached to the fixed panel, the rail comprising a three-sided channel having an attachment side attached to the fixed panel and an engagement side facing outwardly from the fixed panel;
 - a movable panel slidably disposed within the rail for selectively covering the opening;
 - a handle attached to the moveable panel, the handle spaced from the moveable panel to define a recess sized to receive the engagement side of the rail channel;
 - a cam moveably mounted to the handle, the cam defining an engagement surface which extends through a slot defined in the handle; and
 - the cam being biased against the engagement side and operable between a locked position where the engagement surface engages the engagement side, and an unlocked position where the engagement surface is positioned away from the engagement side.
2. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the handle and cam define a single hand actuator capable of being operated with one hand.
3. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the cam is pivotally mounted to the handle.

4. The assembly of claim 3, wherein the cam has proximal end pivotally mounted to the handle and a distal end opposite the proximal end.

5. The assembly of claim 4, wherein the distal end defines the engagement surface.

6. The assembly of claim 4, wherein the distal end is curved and extends outwardly away from the rail to facilitate gripping operation of the cam.

7. The assembly of claim 4, wherein the proximal end defines the engagement surface, and wherein the proximal end is eccentrically shaped to engage and disengage the rail upon rotation of the cam.

8. The assembly of claim 1, wherein opposing sides of the handle include flanges extending away from the rail a distance greater than the distance the handle projects away from the rail in the locked position.

9. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the engagement surface is a planar surface, and wherein the engagement side of the rail is planar.

10. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the engagement surface includes a plurality of gripping teeth.

11. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the cam includes a pin projecting towards the rail to define the engagement surface, and wherein the engagement side of the rail defines a plurality of apertures sized to receive the pin for locking the moveable panel at a plurality of discrete positions.

12. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the cam is axially adjustable in a direction normal to the rail.

13. The assembly of claim 11, wherein the cam is biased towards the rail.

14. The assembly of claim 11 Wherein the cam is biased away from the rail, and further comprising a latch fixing the cam in the locked position.

15. The assembly of claim 12, wherein the cam is a push button sized to be operated with a single finger.

16. The assembly of claim 1, further comprising a second rail comprising a three-sided channel, the moveable panel slidably disposed in both the first and second rails.

17. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the cam defines a cam axis, and wherein the cam axis is generally parallel with the rail when in the locked position.